

# WHY WE NEED TO CLOSE THE Dark Store Loophole

The Dark Store tax loophole allows big box retailers to base their tax assessments on the value of a vacant store, as opposed to a store in operation. This loophole saves corporations millions and shifts the tax burden to homeowners and other businesses.



Local governments have been forced to raise property taxes on homeowners and small businesses to make up for lost revenue.

Homeowners currently account for 68% of the state's property tax levy.

Big box retailers have challenged their property assessments by more than \$700 million in nearly 60 municipalities across Wisconsin.

## Community Impacts



### Hudson

Homeowners in Hudson could experience a

**9%**

increase in their property taxes if the dark store strategy is fully utilized.



### Appleton

The City of Appleton was forced to pay a

**\$350,000**

refund to CVS after the retailer challenged their tax assessment.



### City of Franklin

Local taxpayers paid Lowe's

**\$60,000**

due to a lawsuit by the retailer citing the Dark Store Loophole.